



Future Direction of the FDLP: Modeling Initiative

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In September 2010, the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO) contracted with Ithaka S + R (Ithaka) to develop practical and sustainable models for the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) to continue to fulfill its mission in a changing information environment now dominated by digital technology. These models were intended to serve as a guide in planning the future direction of the Program. After careful review it was determined that the models presented by Ithaka are not practical and sustainable to meet the mission, goals, and principles of the FDLP. These models have some value as we move forward together with the library community to develop new models based on a shared vision which will increase flexibility for member libraries and ensure the vibrant future of the Program in the digital age.

The [archived version](#) of the Ithaka Web site [1](#) that was created as part of this study, as requested under the terms of the contract, is available in PDF format. GPO appreciates the comments that were submitted by members of our community during Ithaka's study of the FDLP. Posted below are the previously released draft documents, public comments, and final modeling report to GPO. We look forward to obtaining comments and feedback from more participants in our depository library network. We plan to use these comments as part of the foundation to build on as we continue our future visioning and modeling process. The deadline for submission of comments is September 16, 2011.

Ithaka has provided a PDF of their final report. The final report is accompanied by a statement from GPO.

[Final Report with Recommendations and Accompanying GPO Statement](#): "Over the course of this project, Ithaka S+R released draft versions of the major components of the final report . . . via the project's website; this final report brings together these deliverables, revised in response to community feedback on these drafts, in completion of the project."

The other documents listed below are taken from the Ithaka Web site archive.

- 1) [Environmental Scan](#): "A broad examination of the environment in which the FDLP exists . . . to identify the broad range of key external issues that can inform planning and decision-making."
- 2) [Report of Existing Networks/Consortia and Depository Programs](#): "A report on existing models of library networks, consortia, and depository programs."
- 3) [White Paper on New Models for the FDLP](#): "A series of new models for the FDLP that build upon the Direction [draft document, #2 below] released previously."
- 4) [Value Proposition for the FDLP](#): "This document focuses on evaluating how the proposed Direction and Models will impact the Program's sustainable accomplishment of its overall goals by considering the value proposition that they pose to libraries."

The following additional documents, which were posted to the Ithaka Web site, have been reproduced here as well:

- 1) [Summary of New Models](#): "This document summarizes the new models this project has drafted for the Federal Depository Library Program."
- 2) [Draft Direction](#): This document "lay[s] out an overall direction for the Program . . . and describes a set of functional and structural themes."
- 3) [Summary of the Research Phase Findings and Implications](#): "This 'findings' section . . . serves to conclude and reflect on the research phase of this project." [2](#)



Join The Discussion

The community was asked to participate in a discussion of GPO's shared vision of the future of the FDLP. Comments were used in the Thursday, October 20, 2011 day-long discussion, "Creating Our Shared Vision: Roles and Opportunities in the FDLP."

1 Note that the Ithaka Web site ceased adding comments in March 2011.

2 Descriptions of documents delivered and posted to the FDLP Desktop have been taken verbatim from the Ithaka Web site or the documents themselves.

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